

**Students To Dream Again**

Portland students will go to Whitman College again this summer.



See story, page A3.

Join In Celebrating Our

**25th ANNIVERSARY**

**Pam Am Boxing Trials**

Olympic hopefuls bring sport to Portland.



See Sports, page B2.

**The Portland Oregonian** 25¢

Mrs. Frances Schoen-Newspaper University of Oregon Libr Eugene, Oregon 97403

**THE WEEK IN REVIEW**

**Katz Named To Skills Board**

President Clinton has appointed Portland Mayor Vera Katz to the National Skills Board. The panel is charged with developing educational standards for American workers to succeed in the workplace and is part of the Goals 2000: Educate America Act of 1994. Katz is noted for her leadership in sponsoring education reform laws in Oregon.

**Children's Store Earns \$220,000**

The second annual season of Our Children's Store, a non-profit gift store in downtown Portland, raised \$220,000 for child in crisis, from its opening Oct. 14 to its closing on Dec. 31. "We were overwhelmed by public response this year," said co-chair Ann Carter. In its first year the store earned \$134,000.

**Summer 'Dreamers' Get Funding**

The Fred Meyer Memorial Trust has awarded \$110,000 to Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash. to continue an "I Have A Dream" program for Portland middle and high school students. The summer residential program introduces the students to college life and helps them develop goals and skills to succeed in college.

**Mississippi Casino Planned**

"Horoscope Casino" in Port Gibson, Miss. is expected to be the first casino in the state to have a majority of black investors. Plans are being made to build the \$8 million facility with a club, restaurant and facilities for professional wrestling, boxing, horseback riding and canoeing. The casino needs approval from the state gaming commission.

**Wealth Group Launches Drive**

A national African American economic empowerment group has kicked off its membership drive declaring that "every major problem facing blacks in America could be eliminated or significantly reduced if there were more wealth in our community." The organization called Better Life Club of America can be reached at 1-800-748-1821 for free information.

**Engineering Enrollment Drops**

Freshman enrollment for under-represented groups in engineering declined more than five percent last year. The number of African Americans declined from 8,924 to 8,271. Total freshman enrollment decreased from 15,181 to 14,387 during the period. In the workplace, engineering graduates still command the highest starting salaries by a wide margin.

**G.M. Raises Prices**

General Motors said it is raising prices on selected models by as much as 5.4 percent. The increases took effect early this month and range from a \$50 hike on the GMC Sierra and Chevrolet C/K truck to a \$1,695 on the new hot-selling Oldsmobile Aurora. The average 1995 price hike is \$151 or about 1 percent.

**Lawsuit Filed In Bend McDonalds Case**



Area residents Reggie Rutherford (from left), Robert Malone and Jacqueline M. Smith announce the filing of a class action lawsuit against McDonalds for violation of civil rights. (Photo By Michael Leighton)

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

**Blatant racism alleged to have occurred at a McDonalds in Bend has led to a multi-million dollar lawsuit and a vow to seek justice.**

A group of African Americans from Portland called a news conference last week to urge support for their action, saying bigotry and the violation of civil rights should not

stand in Oregon.

The class-action lawsuit seeks \$9.4 million in damages from McDonalds Corp. and Alphastar, Inc., the company that runs the McDonalds on Highway 97 in Bend.

The residents claim the central Oregon restaurant discriminated against them last May 8 on Mother's Day.

The group was part of about 90 people, mostly retirement age, and mostly from north

and northeast Portland, traveling home on two buses after a weekend gambling vacation in Winnemucca, Nev. They claim a manager and employees of the restaurant refused them service based on race; tired to serve white customers first; used racial slurs; and called police out for a verbal disturbance.

The Bend police arrived with lights, sirens and police dogs. They circled the bus and detained the members of the group.

Named as the plaintiffs in the civil action in U.S. District Court in Portland are area residents Robert Malone, Barbara H. Bell, Jacqueline M. Smith, Kathie D. Turner and Reggie Rutherford.

"It was humiliating," Malone said.

He said members of the group were upset by the discrimination and racially abuse language in the restaurant and later by the presence of a large German shepherd police dog.

He said the police realized shortly after they arrived that the nature of the call was not serious, but they were nonetheless detained for two hours.

"It shouldn't have happened, but it did happen," Malone said.

He said the lawsuit was a way to see that justice is served in the non-violent manner the late civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"It's an issue of dignity and pride," he said.

Specifically in court papers, Bell claimed she overheard a female employee ask a woman appearing to be her supervisor "what are all these 'niggers' doing here?"

She also claimed she was refused service at the front of the line in favor of the group's caucasian bus driver, even after the bus driver told the employee Bell was first in line.

The plaintiffs, on the advice of their lawyer, would not say if McDonalds had offered an apology or offered any kind of out-of-court settlement.

The vacation trip was organized by Malone, the owner of E & M Community Market in inner North Portland, and Rutherford, another black businessman.

**Assembly To Honor Former Gov. Atiyeh**

Former Oregon Gov. Vic Atiyeh will be honored Saturday for his work on behalf of black Oregonians.

The Oregon Assembly for Black Affairs will present Atiyeh with its annual award given to a person who has contributed greatly and represented the interests of the black community.

Atiyeh will also be the luncheon speaker Saturday at the group's Call-To-Action Leadership Conference at the Quality Inn in Salem, assembly president Cal Henry, said.

The purpose of the conference is to bring together persons concerned with the political development of blacks in Oregon and to discuss priorities for the 1995 Legislative session.

The theme of meeting is "Responsible Action For Political Change: Participation Is The Key."

When Atiyeh was governor, he established the state Commission on Black Affairs by executive order, but when it went to the legislature for funding, only \$1 was appropriated for the commission to operate.

Henry said Atiyeh's decision to establish the commission was not very popular at the time.

But he was not afraid to be the governor of all the people, including black Oregonians, Henry said.

Lane County Commissioner Bobby Green who will serve as keynote speaker during a Recognition Banquet Saturday night.

Green was recently appointed to the position to replace Jack Roberts who was elected Oregon Labor Commissioner. Green was the first black to be elected to the Eugene City Council. The luncheon and the banquet are open to the public.

**King Encourages Area Youth**

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON

**Coretta Scott King told elementary school children from Portland last week they should pursue their dreams.**

"Be the best person you can possibly be," King said.

The widow of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., was in Portland to celebrate the recording release of the Oregon Symphony's special tribute to the late civil rights leader.

King is carrying her husband's advocacy of peace and justice throughout the world.

She encouraged about 75 children from local schools to empower themselves through education and motivation to serve their communities in a non-violent manner.

"You can change the conditions you feel need to be changed," she said.

King was invited to address the children from Martin Luther King Elementary, Holy Redeemer, Grant High School, the Black Educational Center and St. Mary's Academy during a visit to the Nike campus in Beaverton.

The Urban League of Portland was the beneficiary of two receptions to celebrate the recording's release, inspired by the life and words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The Cultural Recreation Band, a northeast Portland youth orchestra, performed at



Coretta Scott King addresses a Portland audience to celebrate the recording of the Oregon Symphony's tribute to her late husband. (Photo By Duane Lewis)

one of the receptions.

The symphony performed the special King tribute "New Morning for the World,"

at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Copies of the recording are available in record stores.

**Seniors Speak Out On Tri-Met Troubles**

**Senior citizens trying to correct problems older riders have with Tri-Met got a hearing Monday with Tom Walsh, general manager for the public transportation agency and other Tri-Met staff and board members.**

The forum was called by a multi-ethnic committee of the Portland/Multnomah Com-

mission on Aging.

Public testimony by seniors and others included stories of falls occurring when the bus stops too far from the curb, bus drivers departing too quickly after picking up riders and occupation of reserved courtesy seats in the front of the bus by the non-elderly and non-disabled.

Additional complaints included: Seniors

thrown off balance due to sudden stops; Drivers not waiting for seniors who move at a slower, gentler pace; And drivers you don't always announce major intersections, causing impaired eyesight seniors to miss stops.

In nearly all cases, the problems with Tri-Met are not limited to seniors and all

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